# The Economic Impact of Agricultural Fairs in Vermont

Vermont's Agricultural Fairs and Field Days draw tens of thousands of people to Vermont and have a significant economic impact on the state's economy.

#### Here are some important numbers:

- Up 14,000 from 2014, **434,474** people attended Fairs and Field Days, with **116,195** visitors from out-of-state (about 26% of attendees).
- 5,787 children and teens attended Fairs & Field
   Days through organized school trips and camps.
- 908 commercial vendors chose Fairs to promote their products and services.
- 9,267 exhibitors, up 730 this year, showed cattle, sheep, fruits & vegetables, horses, art, 4-H and FFA projects, maple, honey, home crafts, poultry, flowers, and more, earning \$443,124 in premiums.
- **2,241** volunteers provided **50,055** hours to help their local Fairs.
- 111 nonprofit organizations promoted their community services.
- Vermont's Fairs spent \$1,724,123 on goods and services in their communities.
- 228 Non-Fair events were held at Fair facilities

# Highlights – These categories were up significantly from 2014!

- Attendance was up 14,000 visitors from 2014
- Children and Teen Guests increased by over 600
- Premiums paid for contest winners were up by over \$50,00
- Indications are that more Vermonters are visiting our fairs as a family, and more families are participating in a variety of contests, winning blue ribbons and prize money as well as bragging rights!

## Impact!



| Commercial Food Sales                        | \$2,036,437 |
|--|-------------|
| Premiums Paid Out to Agricultural Exhibitors | \$443,124   |
| Total Gross Food Sales by                    |             |
| Not-For-Profit Organizations                 | \$835,212   |
| Payroll and Wages                            | \$1,521,623 |
| Total Gross Midway Income                    | \$1,681,864 |
| Expenditures in Local Communities by Fairs   | \$1,724,123 |
| Annual Marketing Expenditures                | \$319,110   |
| Total Annual Operating Budgets               | \$7,194,123 |

(Figures based on 2015 data provided by VAFA members)

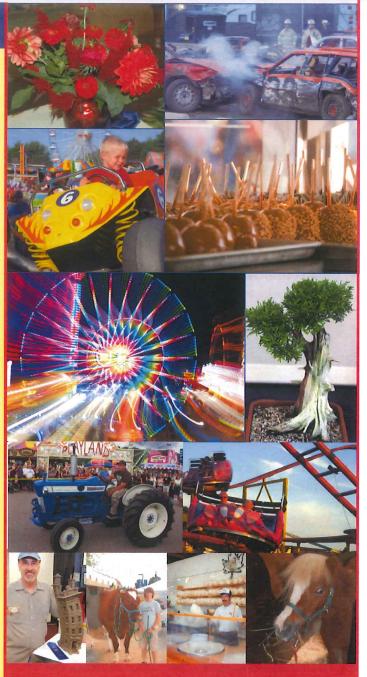


### Come to Vermont's Agricultural Fairs, Field Days & Festivals!

#### 2016 Schedule

| Vermont Maple Festival                      | Apr. 22 - 24      |
|---|-------------------|
| Vermont Dairy Festival                      | June 3 - 5        |
| Connecticut Valley Fair                     | July 14 - 17      |
| Lamoille County<br>Field Days               | July 22 - 24      |
| Franklin County<br>Field Days               | Aug. 4 - 7        |
| Addison County<br>Fair & Field Days         | Aug. 9 - 13       |
| Vermont State Fair                          | Aug. 16 - 20      |
| Orleans County Fair                         | Aug. 17 - 21      |
| Deerfield Valley<br>Farmers' Day Exhibition | Aug. 18 - 21      |
| Caledonia County Fair                       | Aug. 24 - 28      |
| Bondville Fair                              | Aug. 26 - 28      |
| Champlain Valley Fair                       | Aug. 26 - Sept. 4 |
| Guilford Fair                               | Sept. 4 - 5       |
| Tunbridge World's Fair                      | Sept. 15 - 18     |
| Vermont Sheep<br>& Wool Festival            | Oct. 1 & 2        |
| Vermont Farm Show 2017                      | Jan. 31 - Feb. 2  |
| Vermont Flower Show 2017                    | March 3 - 5       |

**Vermont Agricultural Fairs Association** 



Vermont Fairs, Field Days & Festivals provide wholesome, affordable family entertainment and educational opportunities to both Vermonters and visitors to Vermont. They are an important part of the state's heritage and agricultural identity.